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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In Re application of) Group Art Unit: 2121
Harald Karl GRETSCHE)
Application No. 10/529,416)
Filed March 30, 2005)
For: METHOD AND DEVICES FOR)
AUTOMATICALLY SUPPLYING)
MATERIAL TO A PROCESSING)
MACHINE)

THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, and with MPEP Section 609, the materials set forth on the enclosed PTO/SB/08a and 08b forms are submitted for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the non-U.S. patent documents are enclosed. Copies of the U.S. patent documents are not enclosed.

Three oppositions were filed in the European Patent Office, opposing EP 1 762 920, filed by Koenig & Bauer, the assignee of the subject U.S. patent application. EP 1 762 920 is a division of EP 1 546 826, also filed by Koenig & Bauer. The EP '826 application corresponds to the subject U.S. utility application. The claims pending in the EP '920 application are, in the opinion of the representatives of the assignee of the subject U.S. patent application, much broader than are the claims which have been

allowed in the subject U.S. application. However, in accordance with conservative practice, these materials are being brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is to be noted that the subject U.S. patent application claims priority to DE 102 45 658.5, which was filed in Germany on September 30, 2002. Under 35 USC 102(b), it is believed that a number of the enclosed documents do not constitute prior art because they were not described in a printed publication more than one year prior to the September 30, 2002 priority filing date of the subject U.S. patent application. Others are believed to be internal documents and are thus not a "printed publication" under 35 USC 102(b).

Protests were filed on May 14, 2008 in the EPO by ABB Schweiz AG and by WIFAG Maschinenfabrik AG. A third protest was filed by Swisslog AG on May 15, 2008. Each of these three oppositions cited various documents, some of which are believed to have been publically available. Copies of letters from the EPO to Koenig & Bauer, advising Koenig & Bauer of the filings of these oppositions are enclosed.

In an effort to organize the submitted materials, each has been provided with an identification in its upper right corner. The ABB Schweiz AG documents are identified as AB-D1 to AB-D13. The WIFAG documents are identified as WF-D1 to WF-D9. The Swisslog documents are identified as SL-D1 to SL-D8.

There is submitted herewith a chart that was prepared by applicant's principal representatives in Germany. That chart lists the various documents. The large majority of these documents are concerned with printing equipment installed by Koenig & Bauer in Vienna, Austria; in Naples, Italy and in Cologne, Germany. Koenig & Bauer was the general contractor in these installations. ABB Schweiz was a supplier to K&B. Swisslog

was a supplier to ABB Schweiz. The chart briefly discusses the various documents and points out, where appropriate, the equivalency of various ones of these documents to other ones of the submitted documents.

The majority of the enclosed documents are in German or Italian. They do not have U.S. equivalents. Since they were cited by three opposers to a Koenig & Bauer application, their particular asserted relevance is not readily ascertained. None of the ABB Schweiz documents are in the English language. Of the WIFAG documents, WF-D4 is in English. WF-D5; EP 0 491 657 corresponds to U.S. 5,374,231; WF-D6; DE 41 17 473 is accompanied by an English language abstract which was obtained from a commercial database. WF-D7; EP 0 390 735 corresponds to U.S. 5,085,377. WF-D8; DE 199 48 139 is accompanied by an English language abstract which was obtained from a commercial database. None of the Swisslog documents are in the English language.

Entry of these materials into the file of the subject U.S. patent application, their consideration by the Examiner, and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in the continued examination application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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